Projects of Economic Significance Designation

About the Program

The city of Thornton is now offering faster, easier approvals for all new projects designated as Economic Significance. **No public hearings required!**

Projects of Economic Significance are handled administratively and there are **NO** public hearings before Thornton City Council or the Development Permit and Appeals Board. On average, this saves businesses 90 days in processing an application through the city and the additional development costs.

This modification was instituted to improve the city of Thornton's competitiveness for the attraction of important employment and retail projects. This designation allows development of a facility from the ground-up to happen on an accelerated timeline, saving time and money for the end-user.

City Development Review Timeframes

First Review for major applications: 3.5 WEEKS

Subsequent Review for major applications: 2.5 WEEKS



Please contact the city of Thornton Economic Development Department at 303-538-7605 if you are interested in developing space in Thornton or to discuss Projects of Economic Significance in more detail.



How to Qualify

In order to qualify as a Project of Economic Significance, a project must meet the following criteria:

- 1 All new primary employment projects in the city.
- 2 All new retail projects locating along the I-25 corridor, north of 128th Avenue.
- 3 Must fit within the existing zoning of the property. If the property has to be rezoned, or is not yet annexed into the city of Thornton, then Economic Significance would not apply.